BOSS-MAN...

...HERO?!

Chapter 12: Sinking

STOP FOOLING AROUND, HERO!!

C'MON! WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!

MARI IS WAITING!! DON'T YOU CARE ABOUT-

TSK... CALM YOUR MEAGER BRAIN, DEAR BROTHER.

FOR I HAVE DISCOVERED THE ULTIMATE POWER IN THIS WORLD...

?!?!

...COLD HARD CASH!!!!!

THUD

CFO HER

SO FRIENDS... LET ME PRESENT TO YOU MY HUMBLE OFFER...

YES! PUT IN SOME BACK-BREAKING HARD WORK, AND ALL YOUR FEELINGS OF INADEQUACY WILL GO "POOF" JUST LIKE THAT!!!

TRUST ME WHEN I SAY... WITH THE POWER OF MONEY, YOUR PROBLEMS WILL SIMPLY DISAP-PEAR!!!!!

WHAT'S THE USE OF FRETTING OVER THE WORLD'S WOES...

WHEN YOU CAN HAVE CLAMS FLOWING FROM YOUR FINGER-TIPS INSTEAD?!

UHH... NO WAY! THAT SOUNDS HORRIBLE!!

I'LL EVEN GRANT YOU YEARLY BONUSES... IN RETURN FOR DAILY OVERTIME, OF COURSE!

NOW THAT I'M A BOSS... I THINK...YOU GUYS SHOULD ALL WORK FOR ME!!!

STRIKE

THOSE WORKING CONDITIONS ARE HARDLY FAIR!!! I MEAN...DO WE EVEN GET PTO?! AND WHAT ABOUT OUR HEALTH INSURANCE OR EMPLOYEE BENEFITS-

Y-YOU WANT US TO WHAT...?!

HUH?! WHO SAID THAT?!

THAT'S ENOUGH!

RMB

WHRRR

WHAT'D I SAY, HERO? GIVE 'EM AN INCH AND THEY'LL TAKE A MILE...

RMB

SIR...! YOU'RE HERE!

RMB

GRRMMMBBB

AWWW

AHHH

BAM

IT'S ABOUT TIME WE'VE MET FACE-TO-FACE.

SO YOU'RE THE INFAMOUS TRIO GIVING MY GATOR GUYS A RUN FOR THEIR MONEY...

BAM

I'M THE BOSS OF THIS FINE ESTABLISH-MENT!

YOU CAN CALL ME... MR. JAWSUM!

THAT'S... THE BIG BOSS?!

HE'S THE ONE MARI WARNED US ABOUT!

SO... YOU WANT ME TO GIVE UP GOOD OL' HERO?!

THAT'S RICH, I TELL YA!!

HERO IS...

I'D BE A FOOL TO LET GO OF A FINE LAD LIKE HIM.

...FINS DOWN, THE BEST WORKER I'VE EVER HIRED IN MY LIFE.

THIS GUY... I BET HERO IS UNDER HIS INFLUENCE JUST LIKE SHARLEEN WAS...

DON'T GET COCKY NOW... WE ALREADY HAVE YOU SURROUNDED.

WE'VE GOTTA KNOCK SOME SENSE BACK INTO HIM!!!!

WE MADE A PROMISE TO MARI TO SAVE EVERY-ONE...

SHUT YOUR JAW!!!!

MAKE ONE WRONG MOVE AND I'LL ORDER MY MEN TO-

AND WE'RE NOT LEAVING THIS OFFICE WITHOUT HERO...

NO MATTER WHAT!!!

STMP

SNAP

DON'T KNOW WHEN TO BACK DOWN, DO YOU?

I LIKE YOUR SPUNK. IT'S A SHAME WE'LL HAVE TO CRUSH IT.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR...?!

TURN THESE KIDS INTO FISH CHUM!!!!

RUSH

GRIP

BAM

BAM

SHOOT, THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM!!

SNAP OUT OF IT, HERO!!!

TWACK

SNAP

HE USED AN ALLIGATOR MAN AS A SHIELD!

HRGH!

WHAM

HEY! THAT'S GATOR GUY TO YOU!

GRRR...
YOU'LL PAY FOR THAT!!
THUD
KEL, NO!!
NO ONE GETS AWAY WITH HURT-ING MY FRIENDS!!!
WHACK
AUBREY! BEHIND YOU!!
!

SHINK

!

SHINK

THESE ALLIGATOR MEN...

THEY'RE PERFECTLY SYNCHRONIZED UNDER HERO AND MR. JAWSUM'S COMMAND...

NOD

THANK YOU, OMORI! THAT WAS CLOSE...

YOU GOT THAT RIGHT!!

...WE'RE A TEAM TOO.

BUT...

ON IT!!!

LET'S SHOW THEM WHO'S THE REAL BOSS AROUND HERE!!

FLING

SWISH

THWACK

MMAWWW

FWUMP

PHEW... ENOUGH SMALL-TALK!

LET'S GET DOWN TO THE REAL BUSINESS!!!

HOW THE HELL...

BA-

BAM

SIR! LET ME DO THE HONORS-

PATIENCE, LAD. LET THEM TAKE THE BAIT.

!

SO WE CAN FINALLY KICK YOUR BUTT!!

COME FIGHT US YOURSELF, YOU WEIRD MANSHARK!

?!

GLANK

DID YOU EVEN HEAR US?! IF YOU'RE JUST GONNA STAND THERE, THEN I'LL-

TWITCH

?!

KSHNK

GLICK

MY HAIR !!!!!!

REACH

HOLD ON, I'M COMING FOR-

?!

CLUTCH

SHOOT, THEY'VE GOT AUBREY!!!

SNATCH

LET ME GO!!!

DANG IT!

WHAT IN THE-

HELP... ME..

BIG...

BIG BRO...

GRAB

GRIP

NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

B-BRO! WHY...?

WH-WHY ARE YOU SAYING THIS NOW-?!

TOO LAZY... TOO SIMPLE... TOO STUPID. YOU'RE JUST... NOT GOOD ENOUGH... FOR OUR FAMILY.

NO MATTER WHAT... I'M STILL YOUR FAMILY, AREN'T I?!

...A-AND SO WHAT?! EVEN IF THAT'S TRUE...

KEL!

BUT... I'M... ALREADY... TRYING MY BEST...

SHUT UP!! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO TRY HARDER!!!

WHY CAN'T YOU JUST TRY YOUR BEST ALL THE TIME... LIKE I DO?!

WHY CAN'T YOU SEE THAT, HERO??!!

SCREECH

ZZSH
ZZSH

DON'T LEAVE ME!!

WAIT!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, OMORI?!

!

SLUMP

I'M... NOT ENOUGH ...

WAKE UP ALREADY !!!

YOU'RE... NOT ENOUGH...

THE MONEY'S... NOT ENOUGH...

I KNOW I'M NOT PERFECT... AND YOU HAVE YOUR PROBLEMS TOO...

BUT, STILL... YOU'RE... MY BIG BROTHER... SO...

...IF YOU WON'T PROTECT ME... THEN, WHO WILL?!?!

TO PROTECT...

...MY LITTLE BROTHER...

OMORI! NOW'S YOUR CHANCE!!

YOU GOTTA DEFEAT MR. JAWSUM, OR ELSE WE'LL ALL BE-

GET UP NOW!!!!

LOOOOM

!

NO...

IT'S THE END OF THE ROAD FOR YOU.

GARP

NO !!!

WAKE UP!! OMORI!

YOU'RE GONNA BE EATEN ALIVE!!!

THE END IS APPROACH-ING...

THERE'S NOWHERE ELSE FOR YOU TO RUN.

ZWSH

SHHLP

JUST YOU...

TIME IS RUNNING OUT...

LET'S FACE THE TRUTH TOGETHER...

...AND ME.

OMORI!

TIME TO FEAST.

PLEASE !!!!

YOU HAVE TO WAKE UP!!!

DRIP

WHAM

PARDON THE INTER-RUPTION, SIR...

...BUT THIS MEETING'S GONE ON LONG ENOUGH.

SNAP

IT'S ABOUT TIME WE GOT OUR PRIORITIES IN CHECK!

MONEY MAY BE IMPORT-ANT, BUT...

...MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS COME FIRST!!!!

HERO!

HERO... YOU...

BUT SOME THINGS ARE MORE IMPORT-ANT THAN MONEY AND POWER.

I RECOGNIZE THAT DURING MY TIME HERE, I HAVE BEEN GRANTED PRIVILEGES ABOVE THAT OF A NORMAL EMPLOYEE...

I'M SORRY, SIR. I APPRE-CIATE ALL YOU HAVE DONE FOR ME...

SO AS OF THIS MOMENT... I REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT...

...I FORMALLY RESIGN MY POSITION !!!!!!

VWOM

NO!!

BOOOOOM

HRGH...

ドゴゴゴゴ

ORAAARUSHIII

AUBREY... OMORI... KEL..

DID... ...DID WE KILL HIM?

I'M NOT SURE WHAT CAME OVER ME. ALL THAT POWER MUST HAVE GOTTEN TO MY HEAD.

DON'T WORRY, HERO. IT'S GOOD PRACTICE TO RECOGNIZE YOUR MIS-TAKES!!

PLEASE ACCEPT MY SINCEREST APOLOGIES...

STOMP

YOU'RE FINALLY BACK TO NORMAL...

BIG BRO...

LOOOM

UH, GUYS...

I DON'T THINK I CAN DO THIS AGAIN...

MR. JAWSUM ...?

GRAB

YOU...

WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH JUICE...

...TO KEEP GOING!!

...HAVE GOT SOME SERIOUS GUTS, I TELL YA!!!

YOU CRAZY KIDS...

...OF A YOUNG MR. JAWSUM AND HOW HE ONCE STOOD UP TO HIS FATHER, DR. JAWSUM.

I WAS REMINDED OF A MEMORY LONG PAST...

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE SOME-ONE HAS HAD THE COURAGE TO STAND UP TO ME!

BACK WHEN MY FATHER RAN THIS JOINT, ALL HE CARED ABOUT WAS TURNING A PROFIT.

I MUST HAVE MADE A WRONG TURN SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY...

VAGUELY... ETHICAL?

BUT WHEN I TOOK OVER THE FAMILY BUSINESS, I VOWED TO RUN THIS PLACE AS AN HONORABLE ORGANIZATION BASED ON VAGUELY ETHICAL MORALS!

COME, MEN! LET'S GO HAVE A BOARD MEETING... WITH PIZZA !!!!!

ヤクザ YIP

BUT STARTING THIS MOMENT, THIS OLD JAW IS TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF!!!!

PEEE!

オオオ!!

HE CAN BE UNPREDICTABLE LIKE THAT... LET'S HOPE HIS GOOD MOOD LASTS A LONG WHILE...

...

MR. JAWSUM SURE SWITCHES HIS GEARS FAST...

MARI!!

WE GOT OUR FRIENDS BACK, JUST LIKE WE PROMISED!

THERE YOU ARE, EVERY-ONE!

OH, THANK GOODNESS~ I'M SO HAPPY WE'RE ALL TOGETHER AGAIN!

HECK YEAH!!! WE SURE DID GOOD!!

THANKS TO YOU, SHARLEEN AND OUR OTHER FRIENDS WERE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO THE PLAYGROUND TOO.

WEREN'T WE... LOOKING FOR ANOTHER FRIEND?

HEY, MARI. I WAS WONDER-ING...

BEATS ME... THOUGH THE NAME DOES SOUND FAMILIAR...

...ANOTHER FRIEND, HUH? WHAT WAS HIS NAME AGAIN? ...BA...SIL?

GREAT IDEA, KEL!

THEN, WE CAN USE IT TO ASK AROUND IF ANYONE'S SEEN HIM!

HEY, I KNOW! HOW ABOUT IF ONE OF US DRAWS A PICTURE OF THIS "BASIL"?

W-WAS I? IN THAT CASE, I'LL START...

HMM... WAS IT YOU, AUBREY?

WHO HERE WAS CLOSEST WITH BASIL AGAIN?

SO... WHO WANTS TO START?

H-HEY... WHAT'S THE MATTER, AUBREY?

JUST... DRAW WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE!

...

NO, WAIT... THIS DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT.

URGH... MY HEAD IS POUNDING...

...WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT AGAIN?

...I CAN'T.

WHY CAN'T... I REMEMBER ...?

DRIP

DRIP

ZZSSH
ZSSH

OMORI!

HELLLOOOOO, OMORI~ EARTH TO OMORI~!

LET'S GO, ALREADY! IT'S TIME FOR ANOTHER ADVENTURE!

SOME-ONE'S FULL OF ENERGY!

WHERE SHOULD WE GO NEXT, KEL?

DOESN'T MATTER TO ME, AS LONG AS US FOUR STICK TOGETHER!

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, OMORI?